

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097654
ORIGIN SS-25

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APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY
EUR:AHHUGHES
S/S- MR. SEBASTIAN

-----300734Z 077804 /21

P R 292348Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097654

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR

SUBJ: LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FROM CLARK
CLIFFORD

EMBASSY SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER DATED APRIL 29
FROM CLARK CLIFFORD TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS. SIGNED
ORIGINAL HAS BEEN POUCHED.

1. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: I THOUGHT IT
WOULD BE USEFUL TO SHARE WITH YOU MY VIEW ON THE CYPRUS
SITUATION NOW THAT WE BOTH HAVE HAD TIME TO REFLECT ON THE
RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS EARLIER THIS MONTH IN VIENNA.
I FOLLOWED THE PROGRESS OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS CLOSELY,
AND RECEIVED A DETAILED BRIEFING FROM THE STATE DEPART-
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MENT'S DIRECTOR OF SOUTHERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, WHO WAS IN
VIENNA.

2. I BELIEVE THE VIENNA DISCUSSIONS CAN SERVE AS A
TURNING POINT IN OUR SEARCH FOR A CYPRUS SOLUTION. FOR THE
FIRST TIME, THE PROCEDURAL HURDLES WHICH PLAGUES PAST
ROUNDS WERE OVERCOME. CONCRETE PROPOSALS WERE ALSO PRE-

SENTED ON THE TWO KEY ISSUES OF TERRITORY AND CONSTITUTION-
AL ARRANGEMENTS. THESE PROPOSALS DID NOT STIMULATE THE
KIND OF DETAILED DISCUSSION WE HAD HOPED FOR, BUT I REMAIN

CONVINCED THAT THEY CAN, WITH REVISION AND MODIFICATION
PARTICULARLY OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENT, SERVE AS A
BASIS ON WHICH FURTHER DISCUSSIONS CAN PROCEED.

3. I REMAIN CONVINCED THAT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR SUBSTAN-
TIAL MOVEMENT TOWARD A VIABLE SETTLEMENT CAN BE MADE
DURING THE COURSE OF 1977. IF THE START WHICH HAS BEEN
MADE AT VIENNA IS TO BE SUCCESSFULLY EXPLOITED, WE MUST
NOW WORK TO SUSTAIN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. WE PLAN TO
DO ALL WE CAN TO HELP IN PREPARING FOR DETAILED, TECHNICAL
DISCUSSION IN NICOSIA IN MAY. THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL
DOUBTLESS BE DIFFICULT, AND DRAMATIC RESULTS SHOULD NOT
BE EXPECTED, BUT WE MUST IN MY VIEW USE THESE TALKS SO
THAT MOMENTUM IS KEPT ALIVE BEYOND THE TURKISH ELECTIONS
IN JUNE WHEN THE CLIMATE FOR MEASURABLE PROGRESS SHOULD
BE GREATLY ENHANCED. I AM ENCOURAGED BY WHAT APPEARS TO
BE A DETERMINATION OF THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT TO WORK IN
THIS DIRECTION.

4. I WAS ALSO EXTREMELY PLEASED TO LEARN THAT YOUR
GOVERNMENT MADE A TIMELY AND EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION
DURING THE COURSE OF THE VIENNA ROUND WHICH HELPED SUSTAIN
THE TALKS. IT IS THIS SORT OF ASSISTANCE WHICH WILL
BECOME OF EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE AS WE MOVE DEEPER INTO
THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MAIN ISSUES. GREECE IS IN A
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POSITION TO PLAY A VERY POSITIVE AND HELPFUL ROLE, AND ITS
WILLINGNESS TO DO SO WILL HELP INSURE PROGRESS TOWARD THE
CLIMATE FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE FULL RANGE OF ISSUES
WHICH NOW EXIST IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

5. I WANT TO CLOSE BY ASSURING YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES
WILL CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO ENSURE THAT THE
CYPRUS NEGOTIATING PROCESS IS SUSTAINED AND FLOURISHES.
I INTEND TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY, AND I WOULD
ALWAYS VALUE YOUR VIEWS ON HOW WE MIGHT TOGETHER BE OF
GREATER ASSISTANCE.

6. AS YOU MAY HAVE LEARNED BY NOW, I WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT CARTER TO LONDON IN MAY, AND I
LOOK FORWARD TO AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU AND
FOREIGN MINISTER KISSINGER AT THAT TIME FOR FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS OF CYPRUS AND THE MANY PROBLEMS WITH WHICH
YOUR GOVERNMENT IS SEIZED. SINCERELY, CLARK M. CLIFFORD.
END TEXT.

CHRISTOPHER

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